

## Message Text

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11

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-12 ADP-00 SS-15 L-03 DODE-00 NSC-10

RSR-01 RSC-01 /082 W

----- 105749

R 041240 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9648

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 5637

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR VS

SUBJECT: GVN LETTER OF PROTEST

REF: A. STATE 060879 B. SAIGON 5507 NOTAL

1. WE WERE, TODAY, APRIL 4, GIVEN THE TEXT OF A LETTER FROM THE GVN RE THE CONTINUING ATTACKS ON THE TONG LE CHAN RANGER BASE. THE LETTER IS BEING SENT PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 6 OF THE FINAL ACT OF PARIS WHICH PERMITS ANY OF THE FOUR SIGNATORIES TO THE PARIS AGREEMENT TO " INFORM THE OTHER PARTIES TO THIS ABOUT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AGREEMENT AND THE PROTOCOLS."

2. PARA. 5 OF THIS MESSAGE TRANSMITS THE TEXT OF THE GVN' S LETTER. IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARRANGEMENTS ALREADY MADE BETWEEN THE GVN, AMEMB

SAIGON, AND THE DEPARTMENT ( REF A), AMEMBS WARSAW, BUDAPEST AND MOSCOW AND USUN SHOULD PREPARE THE LETTER IN THE USUAL FORM FOR TRANSMITTAL TO THE HOST GOVERNMENT AND TO THE UNSYG , INSERTING NAME OF ADDRESSEE WHERE APPROPRIATE. COVER LETTERS SHOULD BE ATTACHED CONTAINING FOLLOWING TEXT:

" THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA HEREWITH TRANSMITS TO THE ( INSERT NAME OF HOST GOVERNMENT) A LETTER FROM THE GOVERNMENT

OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM CONCERNING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AGREEMENT AND PROTOCOLS SIGNED IN PARIS JANUARY 27, 1973. THE LETTER IS SENT PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 6 OF THE FINAL ACT OF THE INTERNATIONAL  
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CONFERENCE TO END THE WAR AND GUARANTEE PEACE IN VIETNAM."  
ADDRESSEE POSTS SHOULD HOLD THE LETTER UNTIL AUTHORIZED TO TRANSMIT  
IT TO HOST GOVERNMENT BY DEPARTMENT.

3. WE ASSUME THE DEPARTMENT WILL UNDERTAKE TO TRANSMIT THE GVN'S  
LETTER TO THE GOVERNMENT OF THE PRC BY APPROPRIATE MEANS.

4. GVN IS HANDLING TRANSMISSION OF LETTER TO GREAT BRITAIN,  
FRANCE, CANADA, INDONESIA, U. S., PRG, AND DRV, ( PER REF A).

5. BEGIN QUOTE SAIGON, 4 TH APRIL 1973 NO. 141/ BNG/ NCST  
YOUR EXCELLENCY,

I HAVE THE HONOUR TO DRAW YOUR EXCELLENCY'S ATTENTION  
TO THE FOLLOWING.

ARTICLE 3 XC OF THE AGREEMENT ON ENDING THE WAR AND  
RESTORING PEACE IN VIET- NAM, SIGNED AT PARIS ON 27 TH  
JANUARY 1973, CLEARLY STIPULATED THAT

" THE REGULAR FORCES OF ALL SERVICES AND ARMS AND  
THE IRREGULAR FORCES OF THE PARTIES IN SOUTH VIET-  
NAM SHALL STOP ALL OFFENSIVE ACTIVITIES AGAINST  
EACH OTHER..."

THE COMMUNIST SIDE, HOWEVER, HAS IN NUMERIOUS OCCA-  
SIONS VIOLATED THAT FUNDAMENTAL STIPULATION OF THE PARIS  
AGREEMENT, AND IS STILL CONTINUING ITS HOSTILE ACTIVITIES  
AGAINST THE REPUBLIC OF VIET- NAM.

ONE OF THE MOST RECENT AND MOST FLAGRANT CASES, SINCE  
THE CEASEFIRE WAS DECLARED SOME TWO MONTHS AGO, CONCERNS  
THE VIETNAMESE BASE OF TONG LE CHAN, MANNED BY THE 92 ND  
RANGERS BATTALION SITUATED WEST OF NATIONAL HIGHWAY 13, AT  
15 KM SOUTH- WEST OF THE DISTRICT TOWN OF AN- LOC, IN THE  
PROVINCE OF BINH- LONG. THE BASE WHICH HAS BEEN CONTINUOUSLY  
HELD BY THE ARMED FORCES OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIET- NAM FOR  
THE PAST SEVERAL YEARS HAS BEEN UNDER COMMUNIST SIEGE  
SINCE 26 TH FEBRUARY 1973, AND UP TO 2 ND APRIL, THE NUM-  
BER OF CASUALTIES ON THE GOVERNMENT SIDE HAS ARISEN TO  
SIXTEEN KILLED AND OVER ONE HUNDRED WOUNDED. IT HAS BEEN  
REVEALED THAT SEVERAL COMMUNIST REGIMENTS, HEAVILY SUP-  
PORTED BY ARTILLERY AND ANTI- AIRCRAFT UNITS, WERE INSTRUMENTAL  
OF THE SIEGE, WHICH ILLUSTRATES THE CAREFULLY PLANNED MANNER  
OF THE COMMUNISTS AND CONFIRMS THAT IT IS GENUINELY A  
DELIBERATE CASE OF VIOLATION OF THE CEASEFIRE AGREEMENT.

THE COMMUNIST SIEGE AGAINST THE TONG LE CHAN BASE HAS  
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BEEN CARRIED OUT MURDEROUSLY AND RELENTLESSLY, EXCEPT FOR A

BRIEF TWO- HOUR RESPITE ON 25 TH MARCH 1973, WHICH ALLOWED THE GOVERNMENT OF VIET- NAM TO EVACUATE A SMALL NUMBER OF THE SERIOUSLY WOUNDED DEFENDERS OF THE BASE.

THE REPUBLIC OF VEIT- NAM DELEGATION TO BOTH THE FOUR- PARTY MILITARY COMMISSION AND THE TWO- PARTY MILITARY COMMISSION HAS REPEATEDLY PROTESTED AGAINST THE COMMUN- ISTS' ACTION, WHICH HAS NOT ONLY IMPEDED THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PARIS CEASEFIRE AGREEMENT BUT ALSO CONSTITUTES A DIRECT CHALLENGE TO ALL GOVERNMENTS SIGNATORIES OF THE ACT OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON VIET- NAM, SIGNED AT PARIS ON 2 ND MARCH 1973.

IN VIEW OF THE PARTICIPATION OF THE ( INSERT NAME OF HOST GOVERNMENT TO THE 1973 PARIS CONFERENCE ON VIET- NAM, AND PUR- SUANT TO ARTICLE SIX OF THE CONFERENCE ACT, I WISH TO FORMALLY APPEAL TO YOUR EXCELLENCY TO DILIGENTLY INFORM YOUR GOVERNMENT ON THE PRESENT SITUATION IN MY COUNTRY, AND TRUST THAT THE ( INSERT NAME OF HOST GOVERNMENT) ACTION WILL CONTRIBUTE TOWARDS THE RESPECT OF A GENUINE CEASEFIRE IN VIET- NAM BY THE COMMUNIST SIDE.

IT IS ALSO MY DUTY TO APPRISE YOUR EXCELLENCY THAT SHOULD THE COMMUNISTS' HOSTILE ACTIVITIES CONTINUE, THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIET- NAM WOULD HAVE TO RESERVE THE RIGHT TO TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTIONS TO DEFEND ITS TERRITORY AND PEOPLE IN ACCORDANCE WITH ITS INHERENT RIGHT OF SELF- DEFENSE.

MAY I AVAIL MYSELF OF THIS OPPORTUNITY TO CONVEY TO YOUR EXCELLENCY THE RENEW ASSURANCES OF MY HIGHEST CONSIDERATION.

/S/ LE VAN THU  
ACTING MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE  
REPUBLIC OF VIET- NAM

END QUOTE  
WHITEHOUSE

NOTE BY OC/ T: DISTRIBUTION PER S/ S- O, MR. WRIGHT.

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\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* CONFIDENTIAL

## Message Attributes

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